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|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s)    |  |
|                               | 10/767,765      | OGAWA, HIDEHIKO |  |
|                               | Examiner        | Art Unit        |  |
|                               | Thomas D. Lee   | 2625            |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 14 March 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18,25-33,37-45,49-57 and 61-74.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/461,402.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/14/06</u></li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____.</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.</li> </ol> |
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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Terminal Disclaimer***

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on March 14, 2006 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent 6,995,856 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-18, 25-33, 37-45, 49-57 and 61-74 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: No prior art has been found to disclose or suggest the setting of "information regarding the identification of the user and the e-mail address of the user selected by the panel into the mail message of the e-mail to which the image data is attached when the information regarding the identification of the user and the e-mail address of the user are selected by the panel, whereby opening, at the receiving apparatus, of the attached image data is not required to determine the information regarding the identification of the user, and the e-mail address set into the mail message of the e-mail can be utilized as a destination of a reply to the e-mail, the reply being sent from the receiving apparatus," as recited in base claims 1, 7, 25, 28, 37, 40, 49, 52; or the setting of "information regarding the identification of the user and the e-mail address of the user selected by the panel into the mail message of the e-mail to which the image data is attached when the information regarding the identification of the user and the e-mail address of the user are selected by the panel, whereby opening, at the receiving

apparatus, of the attached image data is not required to determine the information regarding the identification of the user, and a reply to the e-mail is returned to the e-mail address set into the mail message of the e-mail," as recited in base claims 13, 31, 43, 55; or the setting of "the default e-mail address, the information regarding the identification of the user selected by the panel and the e-mail address of the user selected by the panel into the mail message of the e-mail to which the image data is attached when the information regarding the identification of the user and the e-mail address of the user are selected by the panel, whereby opening, at the receiving apparatus, of the attached image data is not required to determine the information regarding the identification of the user," as recited in base claims 61, 67, 68 and 74.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas D. Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-7436. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30-5:00, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Thomas D Lee  
Primary Examiner  
Technology Division 2625

tdl  
May 23, 2006